



Attorney Docket No.: P-4007-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): BLOOM, Ilan et al. Examiner: Booth, Richard A.
Serial No.: 09/988,122 Group Art Unit: 2818
Filed: November 19, 2001
Title: PROTECTIVE LAYER IN MEMORY DEVICE AND METHOD THEREFOR

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This communication is filed in response to the Office Action dated January 16, 2003, issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified Application. A response to the Office Action is due on April 16, 2003. Accordingly, this communication is being timely filed.

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims to read as follows:

1. A method of protecting a non-volatile memory device, the method comprising:

Forming a non-volatile memory device comprising a polycide structure formed over a non-conducting charge trapping layer; and

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